United Nations

Press Release

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MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- Secretary-General holds talks with President of El Salvador and General Command of Frente Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation at UN Headquarters.

- General Assembly ends resumed forty-fifth session; hears concluding statement by outgoing President Guido de Marco of Malta.

- Secretary-General calls for strengthened resolve to build a more peaceful world in message to mark International Day of Peace.

- Ente Naziolale Idrocarburi -- Italian petroleum corporation -- will launch project on child care protection with United Nations Children's Fund.

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Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar met this afternoon at Headquarters with President Alfredo Cristiani of El Salvador and the General Command of the Farabundo Marti para la Liberacion Nacional.

The Secretary-General told correspondents this morning that he considered his meetings with the parties "extremely important" and that he hoped some progress would be made in the negotiations. He said he would be meeting separately with President Cristiani and the FMLN.

The Secretary-General invited the two parties to New York for talks in order to break the deadlock in the current negotiations between both sides. The consultations will focus on the question of guarantees and conditions for the reintegration of FMLN members into society.

Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar also replied to questions about his current efforts to free all the hostages and detainees held in Lebanon and Israel, saying he was still hopeful for a solution and that he was continuing his diplomatic efforts.

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For information media—not an official record

The General Assembly this morning ended its resumed forty-fifth session and deferred action on a number of issues postponing them to the forty-sixth session which will begin tomorrow.

The issues on which the Assembly deferred action related to Cyprus, Iraqi aggression and the occupation of Kuwait; and the financing of activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) regarding the cease-fire in the Gulf conflict.

However it concluded consideration of items concerning the question of Palestine; the situation in Central America; peace-keeping operation; crime prevention and criminal justice; and the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

In a statement closing the session, the outgoing President, Guido de Marco of Malta said he had held intensive consultations on the question of revitalization of the General Assembly during his twelve months tenure as President. He proposed that existing internal structures and procedures be used in a better way and adapted when necessary in order to make the Assembly's work more efficient. He also proposed that the Assembly's decision-making process and its follow-up be improved so that its deliberations be given more authority. Thirdly, Mr. de Marco suggested an improved relationship between the work of the Assembly and that of other parts of the United Nations system, including the Secretariat.

Tomorrow, 17 September, the Assembly will elect its new President and vote on requests for memberships by seven nations: the two Koreas, the two Pacific Islands of the Marshall Islands and Micronesia, and the three Baltic republics: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

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Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar has issued a message to mark the International Day of Peace, which traditionally coincides with the opening of a new General Assembly session.

Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar said, in his message, that unprecedented change had brought fresh opportunities for peace and that the movement for democracy had advanced impressively in diverse areas. But, the Secretary-General said, the newly released energies must be channelled towards cooperation between differenct peoples rather than "towards the narrow nationalism that feeds upon fear and prejudice".

The Secretary-General called for renewed attention to continuing global problems as violations of human rights, the deterioration of the environment, overpopulation, drug abuse, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and crime. Peace could not attain its fullness nor could the ecological health of the planet be sustained without balanced economic development, he said.

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The Italian petroleum corporation, Ente Nazional Idrocarburi (ENI) announced today that it will donate $1 million to a joint project with the United Nations Children's Fund to advance children's health in three Third World countries.

Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar met today with the Chairman of ENI, Gabriele Cagliari, and Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), James P. Grant to discuss the project for children in Ecuador, Angola and India.

The goal of the proposed project, titled "ENI for UNICEF", is to encourage and implement low-cost preventive techniques aimed at reducing infant mortality.

ENI appealed to the world's leading industrial groups to accept the challenge and to join in efforts to give a better future for children. It said it was encouraged by the heads of state and government at last year's World Summit for Children who called for universal action for the protection and development of children.

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